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MEMORANDUM REPORT
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UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

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ORIGIN Field (Dallas)	OFFICE Dallas, Texas		FILE NO. CO-2-34030
TYPE OF CASE Protective Research	STATUS Continued	TITLE OR CAPTION Assassination of President Kennedy Miss Pauline V. Bates	
INVESTIGATION MADE AT Fort Worth, Texas	PERIOD COVERED 12-2-63		
INVESTIGATION MADE BY Special Agent Maurice A. Miller			

DETAILS

SYNOPSIS

This report covers interview of Miss Pauline V. Bates, public stenographer, Fort Worth, Texas, in regard to her transcription of Lee Harvey Oswald's notes following his return from Russia.

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

On 12-2-63 interviewed Miss Pauline V. Bates, public stenographer, who resides at 4508 Collinwood, phone PE 2-2351, offices in Room 1004, 502 Main, phone ED 2-8791, Fort Worth, Texas.

Miss Bates stated that Tom Carter and Joe Schott, FBI, Fort Worth, had interviewed her on 11-30-63 and on 12-2-63. She surrendered to them a work sheet, about 5" x 8", on which she had recorded the dates and hours she was engaged in typing the dictation of Lee Harvey Oswald. She does not possess any other notes.

Miss Bates furnished this agent the November 29, 1963 issue of the Fort Worth Press, and advised that she spent approximately three hours with Caroline Hamilton, Press staff writer, so that the story would be as accurate as possible. She wrote on the paper, "This article is a true and correct account of my contact and work record with Lee Oswald 6-18-62 through 6-20-62, as I recall it and from a work sheet I maintained. /S/ Pauline V. Bates, 12-2-63."

The article is self-explanatory and because of it's accuracy has been marked for identification in lieu of a formal affadavit. The article follows:

"

THE OSWALD MIND

His Notes on Russia Revealed by Steno

EXCLUSIVE

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Chief Dallas	Orig.-2cc 2 cc	REPORT MADE BY [signature] SPECIAL AGENT	DATE 12-9-63
		APPROVED [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DATE 601 12-9-63

(CONTINUE ON PLAIN PAPER)

" (Editor's Note: All the world wants to know what went on in the twisted mind of Lee Oswald, the turncoat accused of assassinating President Kennedy. Here is the first story of how Oswald tried to picture life in Russia . . . as he told it to a public stenographer and as she told it to PRESS Reporter Caroline Hamilton.)

"By CAROLINE HAMILTON, Press Staff Writer

"Lee Oswald wanted the world to think he'd gone to Russia 'on a job' for the State Dept.

"He left that impression with Miss Pauline V. Bates, public stenographer in the Durk Burnett Bldg.

"He did it by evasiveness.

"'When the State Dept. granted my visa,' Lee Oswald told her, 'they stipulated they could not stand behind me in any way.'

"Oswald went to see Miss Bates June 18, 1962. He had in his hand a manila envelope full of notes condemning and criticizing life in Russia. Lee Oswald had found Soviet Russia no Utopia.

"Or so he said.

"It was shortly after 11 A.M. when he walked into her office, a pale man, lean almost to gauntness, with eyes that looked beyond her as he talked.

"He had on a dark, lightweight, zip-up, waist-length jacket, a white T-shirt and dark slacks - Miss Bates never saw him in anything else.

"'I saw your name in the phone book,' he said. 'Can you do some typing for me?'

"'What?'

"'Notes I made in Russia of conditions there.'

"Miss Bates agreed. He told her his name Lee Oswald - she didn't recognize it then. And gave her a phone number where he could be reached, mentioned he was living with his brother.

"'Where?' she asked.

"'In Arlington Heights,' he said.

"In his manila envelope Oswald had several sheaves of papers, stapled together in sequences on different cities of Russia. The first was Minsk. The second Kiev. The papers were all sizes and all shapes, some snips like strips pulled from envelopes, some full sheets, some heavy brown wrapping paper.

"The notes were handwritten in pen and pencil and typed. 'I had a portable typewriter,' Oswald explained, 'and my wife used to muffle the sound when I typed at night.'

"He hoped to get a Fort Worth engineer to help him publish a book from the notes. Miss Bates is not sure today who.

"That name, like the Russian names that abounded in the well-written, gripping narrative, has gone from her memory. Miss Bates just typed as he spelled. 'The names didn't sound like names even, they were so unfamiliar,' she commented.

"He never allowed her to remain alone with his notes. He brought them when he came, took them when he left. And he made sure he had all typed copy, all carbons.

"During the three days he sat, for hours at a time, in her office while she typed from his notes, Lee Oswald told her little about himself.

"He said he had 'just gotten back' after two years and 11 months in Russia where he worked in a factory at Minsk. He told her he was more than ready to return to the U. S. when his two-year visa expired but that he had married a Russian girl.

"The Russians told him to go ahead back to the U. S. and they'd send his wife later. 'But I knew I'd never see her again if I did ... so I stayed,' Lee Oswald said.

"Eventually, he'd raised so much fuss ... he said ... they granted permission for him and his wife to leave Russia. Miss Bates thinks he told her they came across the Austrian border.

"He sounded very brave in his fight for his wife.

"'Lee,' she asked, 'aren't you afraid her relatives might be in danger?'

"'No,' he told her. She thinks he said his wife was an orphan whose relatives were killed in the war.

"'Does she like America?'

"'Yes,' he answered, 'She is impressed with the skyscrapers, cars, food, clothes, the happy expressions on people's faces, likes TV.'

"Then he probably came as close to a smile as he ever did in her presence. The food here was plentiful and rich and she over-ate.

"'We both did,' he almost smiled. Miss Bates' impression: Lee Oswald was very fond of his wife.

"Lee Oswald said he had taken a course in elementary Russian, applied for a visa after he got out of the Marines. He said he could speak Russian better than his wife could speak English. But she enjoyed U. S. TV.

"Miss Bates, who has had offices in the Dunk Durnett Bldg. for 10 years, typed for Oswald by the hour. He was in her office from shortly after 11 to 12:05 p.m., again from 1:30 to 2 p.m. on June 18. The next day he was there from 9 a.m. to 11:15, her work sheets show. He was back in the afternoon when she worked on his typing from 3 to 3:25 p.m.

"On June 20 he came in soon after 10 a.m. 'That last day he was worried or scared.' Miss Bates said. 'He was fidgety, up and down, looking over my shoulder, wondering at what point I was in typing the manuscript.' She was typing about Kiev.

"He was there the rest of the morning, part of the afternoon. When she finished the 10th page of typing -- single line -- he stopped her.

"'Ten dollars is all I've got,' he said. She was about a third through his hard-to-decipher notes. 'I'll finish it for you, Lee, and you can pay me when you get some money,' she offered, for Miss Bates was caught up in the bitter realism of the factual account.

"'No,' he said, pulled a $10 bill from his front pocket, handed it to her and walked out. After that she saw him twice on downtown streets but he neither spoke nor nodded.

"What does Miss Bates remember about the pages she typed?

"'It's jumbled,' she admitted. 'When you are typing you are copying and not reading to remember.' But --

"Conditions in Russia were terrible in his eyes. Several families living in one room. Everyone working, women as well as men, children in nurseries until they were old enough to go to the state school.

"The continual, perpetual pressure of the Communist Party. The spying and the fear of 'bugs' -- electronic listening devices. People spoke openly only in parks. He wrote about the May Day parades, carefully arranged. 'You better turn out unless you were really sick.'

"Oswald said he worked in a factory at Minsk for 12 and 14 hours a day on a quota basis. If you did more than your quota, you got a citation -- but it didn't show on your paycheck. No coffee breaks. No paid vacations. Just a chosen few get vacations from each factory but even then they were not alone, but under a Party boss. Long lectures on Communism are conducted during lunch.

"The TV carries nothing except the Communist party line but you have to turn it on or someone gets suspicious.

"A few have hidden radios and are enthusiastic over Voice of America. Here he had names, towns ... but commented:

"'I'll have to change the names if my book is published or they will be in real trouble.'

"The food was monotonous. Oswald didn't like it. He ate black bread, potatoes, occasionally fish. The little meat -- and it wasn't much good even if you got it -- and fresh vegetables were rationed. Milk was hard to buy. He had voluminous notes on the prices of food, but Miss Bates can't remember them.

"Somewhere she remembers something about his earning 80 rubles a month in the factory and that a pair of shoes cost 100 rubles. He readily turned rubles into U. S. dollars when helping her with the notes.

"He reported verbatim conversations with many individuals -- all critical of Russia -- and had names and times and places. She recalls none of them.

"She recalls a comment that Soviet education is only the Party line -- and that their history began with Lenin and Marx.

"In the notes -- as far as she typed -- there was no mention of Lee Oswald's renunciation of his U. S. citizenship.

"One coat is all you can have in Russia -- and it gets cold there, Lee Oswald wrote. He had traveled some before he went to work in the factory, found travel restricted, reasons required ... and trips cleared through a Party boss.

"Lee Oswald somewhere implied that his permission to leave Russia with his wife came from Khrushchev because 'he is the only person who ever gives permission to leave.' But Oswald never said he had seen Khrushchev himself.

"He never said he was a U. S. secret agent either. But he gave that impression.

"And the impression raised questions in Miss Bates' mind: Why would a secret agent have a public stenographer type his notes? Why was he short of money? Why couldn't he find a job? Why did he leave the impression he was a secret agent? Why did he watch his notes so carefully?

"She never found out.

"But she thought about it again after Nov. 22. And she still doesn't know."

Miss Dubos was questioned regarding the Fort Worth engineer who might have helped publish a book from the typewritten notes. She stated she believes his name to be Peter Gregory, but could not be sure.

DISPOSITION

Inquiry closed unless directed otherwise.

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